Tajikistan country strategic plan (2023–2026)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>1 January 2023–31 December 2026</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total cost to WFP</td>
<td>USD 91,900,725</td>
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<td>Gender and age marker*</td>
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Executive summary

Over the past 20 years, Tajikistan has shown remarkable social and economic achievement. Following a sustained decline in its poverty rate and a rise in per capita income between 2000 and 2020, the country graduated from low-income to lower-middle-income country status in 2021.

However, with a narrow economy heavily reliant on foreign grants, loans and remittances from migrant workers, development challenges remain. The country’s food security is highly sensitive to price shocks, malnutrition is widespread and agricultural productivity remains low, with agriculture taking place largely on small-scale subsistence family farms. Tajikistan is also one of the countries most susceptible to climate change and natural disasters.

This country strategic plan supports the Government's priorities for achieving food security and broadening access to good-quality nutrition. WFP will build on the foundations laid in recent years to continue its strategic shift from direct implementation to strengthening the capacity of national institutions. A focus will be on supporting livelihoods, improving agricultural production, strengthening value chains, improving health, education and nutrition outcomes and strengthening national institutions and systems. WFP will also maintain the capacity to provide on-demand logistics and procurement services for the Government and development partners.

Focal points:

Mr J. Aylieff  
Regional Director  
Asia and the Pacific  
email: john.aylieff@wfp.org

Mr A. Musallam  
Country Director  
email: adham.musallam@wfp.org

Executive Board documents are available on WFP’s website (https://executiveboard.wfp.org).
The country strategic plan is aligned with the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework for Tajikistan for 2023–2026 and the Government’s national development strategy through 2030 – the overarching framework for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. It draws on recommendations from a 2021 independent evaluation of the country strategic plan for 2019–2024. It contributes to Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17 and WFP’s strategic outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 through four country strategic plan outcomes:

- **Outcome 1**: By 2026, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in urban and rural areas have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities through improved climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agri-food value chains.
- **Outcome 2**: By 2026, rural and urban populations in targeted areas have improved food security and nutrition for inclusive human development.
- **Outcome 3**: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally-vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national systems and subnational capacities are strengthened to address cumulative impacts of disasters and crises and enable affected communities to build back better.
- **Outcome 4**: Government institutions are strengthened to accelerate and sustain results contributing to inclusive social protection programmes and strengthened national and subnational food systems by 2026 in Tajikistan.

WFP will continue to partner with national and subnational entities, other United Nations entities and civil society and private sector actors to implement the integrated components of the country strategic plan and will ensure coordinated action with the other Rome-based agencies.

**Draft decision***

The Board approves the Tajikistan country strategic plan (2023–2026) (WFP/EB.2/2022/7-A/13) at a total cost to WFP of USD 91,900,725.

* This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Board, please refer to the decisions and recommendations document issued at the end of the session.
1. **Country analysis**

1.1 **Country context**

1. Tajikistan is a landlocked, mountainous country that borders Afghanistan, China, the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan. The population of 9.5 million people is growing at a rate of nearly 2 percent per year⁷ – the highest rate in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region. Half the population is under the age of 25, and one quarter lives in urban areas.

2. Over the past 20 years the country has seen important economic and social improvements. The economy has grown by an average of 7 percent per year, while from 2000 to 2020 the overall poverty rate fell from 83.0 percent to 27.5 percent² and gross national income per capita rose from USD 170 to USD 1,060. In 2021, the World Bank reclassified Tajikistan from low-income to lower-middle-income country status.

3. However, the overall economy remains narrow and susceptible to shocks. It is characterized by exports of metals such as gold and aluminium, agricultural production and low-value-added products and services and is dependent on foreign grants and loans. Remittances, predominantly from migrant workers in the Russian Federation, accounted for 26.7 percent of gross domestic product in 2020, the fourth highest such share in the world.

4. The Tajik constitution states that all land in Tajikistan is owned by the state. Despite strengthened land-use rights under the 2012 amendments to the country’s land code, the development of small-scale agriculture is dependent on progress in land reform and the ability to implement land-use rights freely.³

5. Tajikistan is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change owing to its topography, poor infrastructure and limited adaptation capacity. The country ranks eighth in the world for risk of drought, according to the INFORM Risk Index,⁴ and faces projected temperature increases of as high as 5.5°C by the 2090s.⁵ Countrywide, it is estimated that the economic damage of climate change will increase from USD 50.4 million per year in 2014 to USD 132.3 million in 2030.⁶

6. Education is compulsory through grade 9 (primary school) and primary school enrolment rates for boys and girls are nearly universal. However, the attendance rate declines to 83 percent after primary school. Owing to a lack of systematic learning assessments, only limited data on learning outcomes in Tajikistan are available.

7. According to the 2021 United Nations common country analysis, institutional mechanisms for supporting gender equality are weak and underfunded. Women face pervasive gender stereotyping, resulting in their low participation rates in the non-agricultural labour force (27 percent), low secondary and tertiary education enrolment rates (31 percent) and high rates of gender-based violence (26 percent). Tajikistan scored 0.314 on the 2021 United Nations Development Programme Gender Inequality Index.

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Due to its long and porous border with Afghanistan, Tajikistan hosts the largest number of refugees and asylum seekers in Central Asia. Following the collapse of the Afghan Government and economy in August 2021, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that the number of Afghan refugees in Tajikistan may rise to 23,000 by the end of 2022, posing further challenges to public services.

Scarcity of pasture and water has led to inter-ethnic tensions in areas near the border with the Kyrgyz Republic, where high dependence on those resources fuels conflict and has motivated violent outbreaks between communities on both sides of the border. More than 70 such incidents have been reported by local media since 2004.  

**1.2 Progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Tajikistan adopted the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015. The national development strategy for the period up to 2030 (NDS–2030) is the overarching framework guiding the country’s work towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and sets out the strategy for sustainable economic development and improved living standards through three medium-term development programmes.

Although there has been significant progress towards some of the SDGs, such as those related to poverty and education, the 2021 common country analysis found that progress has been uneven across the 17 goals and among regions. Credible disaggregated data on SDG progress are also limited, hindering implementation of SDG-related policies and analysis.

**1.3 Progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17**

**Progress on Sustainable Development Goals 2 targets**

12. **Access to food.** The prevalence of food insecurity in Tajikistan ranges from low (under 18 percent) in the Sughd region, to high (over 23 percent) in the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast. The country imports 65 percent of the food (in particular wheat from Kazakhstan) needed to meet domestic demand, which represents the highest share of agri-food imports by any Central Asian country and makes food security highly sensitive to price shocks and currency fluctuations. The conflict in Ukraine is a major concern given its impact on the commodity market for wheat and on remittances, which are a major source of household income and livelihoods.

13. **Food costs are high:** on average, households in Tajikistan spend 50–60 percent of their total expenditure on food, with rural households spending as much as 80 percent. Nutritious diets cost between 2.5 and 3.5 times more than a diet that meets only energy needs. Individuals who have high nutrient requirements, such as pregnant and lactating women and girls and adolescent girls, are among those most affected by the high cost of a nutritious diet.

14. **End malnutrition.** Malnutrition continues to be widespread in Tajikistan. At the national level the prevalence of stunting in children under 5 decreased from 26.5 percent in 2012 to 15.3 percent in 2020. An integrated context analysis of 2021 shows high prevalence of food insecurity and stunting in all districts of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast and in several districts of Khatlon. Wasting affects 6 percent of children and is more prevalent in urban areas. Micronutrient deficiencies are still widespread, with severe deficiencies in

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vitamin A and moderate deficiencies in iron. Anaemia affects 35.2 percent of women and girls of reproductive age.\textsuperscript{11}

15. From 2000 to 2016 adult obesity nearly doubled, indicating a growing need to tackle the triple burden of malnutrition: undernutrition, overweight and obesity, and micronutrient deficiencies.

16. Malnutrition is driven by poor dietary diversity, suboptimal feeding practices and the high cost of a nutritious diet, which many households cannot afford. Nutrient-poor cereals, such as white wheat flour, make up 50 to 70 percent of per capita calorie intake in Tajikistan, one of the highest such proportions in the world.\textsuperscript{12}

17. Smallholder productivity and incomes. Agriculture employs more than 60 percent of the workforce. Although women comprise 60 percent\textsuperscript{13} of the agricultural workforce, only 12 percent\textsuperscript{14} of them serve as heads of family farms, and women are also less likely than men to have formally documented land-use rights. Owing to inefficient production and limited amounts of arable land, agriculture contributes just 19 percent of gross domestic product.

18. In the peak summer and autumn seasons, more than 40 percent of all households in Tajikistan are likely to have at least one family member migrating abroad for work.\textsuperscript{15} As a result, women are left to perform the bulk of agricultural work, but their contribution lacks recognition, and they lack access to productive resources and opportunities. Owing to cultural barriers, only 16.5 percent of urban women and 33.7 percent of rural women own land.

19. Sustainable food systems. Nearly 90 percent of all Tajik farms are small-scale subsistence family farms, with an average size of 0.1 ha.\textsuperscript{16} The small scale of agriculture in Tajikistan leads to a fragmented system characterized by high post-harvest losses, inefficient production, large numbers of intermediaries and limited links to domestic, national and regional markets.

**Progress on Sustainable Development Goal 17 targets**

20. Capacity strengthening. The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade is responsible for planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting on national development strategies and nationalized SDG targets. Through the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework (UNSDCF) for 2023–2026, the United Nations country team is working to support government capacity to further integrate and work towards the SDGs.

21. The Government has mechanisms in place for responding to emergencies and disasters. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population manages the flagship national social protection programme - the targeted social assistance programme – which started in 2011 in selected districts and aims to unify existing social protection schemes for the most vulnerable people and communities.

22. Policy coherence. As the overarching development policy framework, NDS-2030 implies close coordination among institutions and improved accountability of state administrative bodies. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population is a lead convener of nutrition-related initiatives such as the multisectoral action plan for the prevention of

\textsuperscript{11} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{15} World Bank. 2021. *Crisis and Recovery. Economic and Social Monitoring from Listening to Tajikistan.*
micronutrient deficiencies and related diseases and the interministerial coordination council for school feeding. Tajikistan joined the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement in 2014. In 2019, the Government passed a law on fortification, which lays the foundation for micronutrient fortification activities in the country.

23. **Diversified resourcing.** An estimated USD 118 billion is needed for implementation of NDS-2030 and achievement of the SDGs.\(^{17}\) The United Nations joint programme on financing the SDGs in Tajikistan, created in 2020, supports the Government in developing a national financing framework with baselines and targets and identifying and filling critical data gaps to enable costing and resource mobilization for national policies and sector strategies.

24. **Enhance global partnership.** The Government established a rapid emergency assessment and coordination team (REACT) as a disaster risk management partnership among the Government, humanitarian organizations and communities that assesses and responds to emergencies. REACT has worked on national preparedness and response plans, was mobilized in response to the increased needs arising from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and leads rapid assessments that facilitate quick responses to disasters.

### 1.4 Hunger gaps and challenges

25. As highlighted in the national zero hunger strategic review, Tajikistan must first overcome key challenges before it can strengthen food security and ensure adequate nutrition. Those challenges include households’ heavy dependence on remittances from migrants in the Russian Federation, rising food prices, dependence on food imports and the increased impact of climate change.

26. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the fragility of social protection and food systems. As a result of lockdowns and supply chain disruption, staple food prices rose significantly in the second quarter of 2020 compared with the previous year, including by 31 percent for wheat flour and 84 percent for potatoes.\(^{18}\) At the same time, household incomes decreased as remittances declined, a trend that will be accelerated by the conflict in Ukraine. In mid-2020 more than half of surveyed households reported experiencing food shortages, with 9.1 percent more female-headed than male-headed households reporting shortages.\(^{19}\)

27. A key barrier to increasing domestic food production is poor agricultural productivity, driven by limited knowledge and adoption of new farm practices and technologies and poor linkages to markets. Wheat production in Tajikistan averages 3.1 mt per hectare, compared with 4.3 mt in neighbouring Uzbekistan.\(^{20}\) The unsustainable and inefficient use of land and water resources will be exacerbated by changing weather patterns. At the same time, poor early warning and disaster preparedness systems limit the country’s ability to cope with climate change.

28. COVID-19 also exposed gaps in the coverage of the targeted social assistance programme. The programme was officially expanded to national coverage in May 2020 but the vulnerability categories that it prioritizes were not adjusted. Assistance is in the form of an unconditional cash transfer amounting to less than USD 40 per year. A large proportion of

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\(^{20}\) International Food Policy Research Institute. 2019. *Agriculture Development in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program Member Countries: Review of Trends, Challenges and Opportunities.*
the people working in the informal economy are not covered by the Government’s cash transfers, which are intended to target the poorest households.

29. In addition, the limited availability of disaggregated data poses a key challenge to the implementation and analysis of government programmes. For example, despite representing 18 percent of the population, adolescents (age 10–19 years) are not identified as a group in official statistics. The most recent labour force survey was conducted in 2016, while the most recent demographic and health survey, a key source of data for a range of SDG indicators, was conducted in 2017.

2. Strategic implications for WFP

2.1 Achievements, lessons learned and strategic changes for WFP

30. In line with recommendations from a 2020 strategic evaluation of school feeding activities, WFP is reviewing barriers to access to school meals and improving process monitoring by establishing links to national monitoring systems.

31. The 2021 independent evaluation of the country strategic plan (CSP) for 2019–2024 found that WFP had been a reliable and effective partner for the Government, helping to meet national priorities. During the last three years of the CSP period, the Government signed five formal agreements with WFP on implementing activities jointly.

32. Following the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Education and Science in 2021, on the development and handover of a sustainable national school feeding programme, WFP established a dedicated school feeding centre in the ministry. The programme is a key milestone in the route towards national implementation and ownership of the flagship programme, which is seen by the evaluation team as a priority multisectoral, nutrition-sensitive safety net programme.

33. The evaluation identified high-level recommendations for WFP’s work in the country as it moves forward. They include the following, which have been incorporated into the design of the CSP:

- Deepen interlinkages between humanitarian assistance and development interventions through country capacity strengthening.
- Support government fiscal planning and optimization processes for school feeding and resilience building.
- Continue the reorganization of WFP’s office structure to optimize the delivery of stronger, more integrated results.
- Strengthen strategic and operational partnerships and efforts to diversify the donor base.

34. WFP has been undertaking a strategic shift in Tajikistan, moving from the direct implementation of programmes to enabling and the strengthening of national capacities to deliver on food security and nutrition priorities. Under the previous CSP, WFP laid the foundation for an increased emphasis on capacity strengthening, social protection, climate change adaptation and rural development. Thematic research\(^\text{21}\) and the development of a theory of change supported the foundation of the new CSP, which will build on the previous CSP and explore opportunities to strengthen local value chains and introduce innovative climate services while retaining the capacity to respond to emergencies.

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\(^{21}\) In relation to food security in Tajikistan, in 2021, WFP conducted studies on gender and diversity inclusion, young people and adolescents, early childhood development, social protection (including shock-responsive social protection), and migration.
2.2 Alignment with national development plans, the United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework and other frameworks

35. In NDS-2030, the Government sets out four key strategic objectives for the country in the near term. The objectives focus on energy, the economy, food security and nutrition, and productive employment. WFP's CSP supports the Government in meeting the third and fourth of those objectives.

36. WFP worked closely with partners on the development of the UNSDCF for 2023–2026 and will contribute to three of the framework's strategic priorities through this CSP: inclusive human development; sustainable, inclusive and green economic growth; and the integrated management of climate and environmental risks.

2.3 Engagement with key stakeholders

37. The CSP builds on ongoing partnerships and discussions arising from the development of the new UNSDCF with United Nations partners, the Government – including the Committee on Women and the Family – donors and academic and civil society actors. Community members, local leaders, the Government, donors and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners participated throughout the evaluation of the previous CSP, the conclusions and recommendations of which contributed to the design of this CSP.

3. WFP strategic portfolio

3.1 Direction, focus and intended impacts

38. The CSP supports the Government's objectives through a focus on supporting livelihoods, improving agricultural production, strengthening value chains, improving health, education and nutrition outcomes and strengthening national institutions and systems. In line with WFP's 2022 gender policy, the corporate gender action plan and the 2021 WFP gender and disability inclusion analysis of Tajikistan, gender equality and the inclusion of young people and persons with disabilities are central to the strategic orientation of the CSP.

39. If requested by the Government, WFP will respond to crises and emergencies with food assistance and cash-based transfers (CBTs) and provide on-demand services under CSP outcome 3. Resilience activities under CSP outcome 1 will contribute to school feeding and nutrition objectives.

3.2 Country strategic plan outcomes, WFP strategic outcomes, focus areas, expected outputs and key activities

Country strategic plan outcome 1: By 2026, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in urban and rural areas have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities through improved climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agri-food value chains

40. Through an integrated participatory approach that includes the provision of climate information services, capacity strengthening, value chain development, sustainable resource management and climate-resilient agriculture and forestry activities, women and men in vulnerable urban and rural communities will benefit from resources, knowledge, skills and assets that enable them to meet their food needs while enhancing their capacity to adapt to climate change and resilience.

WFP strategic outcome

41. This CSP outcome is in line with WFP strategic outcome 3 (People have improved and sustainable livelihoods).

Focus area

42. This CSP outcome focuses on resilience building.
Alignment with national priorities

43. This outcome is in line with UNSDCF outcome 3 (integrated management of climate and environmental risk) and the national disaster risk reduction strategy for 2019–2030, which highlights the need to mainstream disaster risk reduction and inform people at the community level on how to manage and mitigate such risk.

Expected outputs

44. CSP outcome 1 will be achieved through outputs 1.1–1.4:

➢ Output 1.1: Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups receive food assistance that meets their immediate food and nutrition needs and enables them to improve their livelihoods.

➢ Output 1.2: Targeted rural and urban communities and smallholder farmers groups benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors that affect their food security.

➢ Output 1.3: Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change.

➢ Output 1.4: Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups have improved productivity and income through enhanced agricultural value chains and access to local and institutional markets.

Key activities

Activity 1: Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation, market access support and livelihoods building activities through nutrition-sensitive and ecological approaches aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and increasing smallholder farmer production and income

45. With special attention to the needs of women and young people, WFP will provide communities with CBTs for the development of climate-smart agricultural assets that facilitate livelihood diversification and increase resilience, such as mixed orchards, solar greenhouses, temperature-controlled storage facilities and drip irrigation systems. Innovative techniques including hydroponics, urban gardening, integrated pest management, biofortification through conventional selective breeding and other ecologically sound and nutrition-sensitive food production methods, will be introduced.

46. Under its home-grown school feeding programme, which commenced in 2022, WFP will link smallholder farmers with local schools with the aim of developing local markets, improving the growing practices of participating farmers and improving schools’ access to locally available nutritious foods. WFP will support smallholder farmers through gender- and nutrition-sensitive capacity development; the transfer of technology and post-harvest management skills, including food quality and safety considerations; the provision of inputs such as seeds, tools and equipment; and financial literacy training.

47. Where linkages to schools cannot be established, similar projects will foster links to local markets. In urban and peri-urban areas, WFP will support smallholder producers’ entry into markets by collaborating with the private sector on strengthening input supply, improving cold chains and ensuring reliable access to appropriate financial services for smallholder producers. In cities, WFP will employ urban agriculture, including techniques such as hydroponics and vertical agriculture.

48. WFP will support the development and dissemination of weather and climate information tailored to the needs and priorities of vulnerable communities and will strengthen the capacity of the National Agency for Hydrometeorology to map and visualize climate information.
Partnerships

49. WFP will work closely with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade in assisting districts with the formulation of district development programmes and the mainstreaming of SDG targets into those programmes. WFP is party to memoranda of understanding with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation and the Agency for Forestry and is developing agreements with the Agency on Statistics and the National Agency for Hydrometeorology.

50. To enhance interagency cooperation, WFP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization have developed a strategic framework for nutrition under the UNSDCF. A cooperation agreement with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) will ensure that projects are gender-transformative and inclusive.

51. Through projects funded by the Green Climate Fund, WFP will work closely with the Committee for Environmental Protection, the leading institution on resilience building and climate change adaptation in Tajikistan, and the agencies responsible for forestry and land reclamation, and irrigation. WFP partners with academic actors on the design of innovative climate service interventions and the promotion of hazard forecasting and disaster risk management.

52. While the Green Climate Fund project has a strong focus on rural areas, WFP will seek to expand partnerships and opportunities to ensure that its resilience, livelihoods and adaptation portfolio includes innovative solutions focused on urban agroecosystems and enhancing urban–rural linkages.

Assumptions

53. Community participation and engagement will be critical in ensuring that the assets selected are appropriate to the circumstances, have a positive influence on productivity and climate adaptation and will be sustained after WFP support ends.

Transition/handover strategy

54. Learning from the previous CSP, WFP will work to ensure that communities have full ownership of the assets created and will maintain them after handover. WFP will support capacity strengthening efforts that equip communities and households with climate-smart and climate-resilient livelihood strategies. The income generated through links between farmers and diverse markets, including schools and the private sector, will support farmers’ self-reliance and the continuation of activities after WFP support ends.

Country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2026, rural and urban populations in targeted areas have improved food security and nutrition for inclusive human development

55. Through school feeding, nutrition and social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) interventions WFP will foster improved nutrition and education outcomes in rural and urban communities, including among primary and secondary schoolchildren, children age 6-59 months with acute malnutrition, caregivers, school staff and community members. The outcome will support children in maintaining good health and nutrition throughout the vulnerable periods of development during the first 8,000 days of life.

WFP strategic outcome

56. This CSP outcome aligns with WFP strategic outcome 2 (People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes).

Focus area

57. This CSP outcome focuses on addressing root causes.
**Alignment with national priorities**

58. This outcome aligns with UNSDCF outcome 1 (inclusive human development), which emphasizes access to nutrition services and the adoption of appropriate nutrition practices within communities, and with the national strategy for education development for 2020–2030, which recognizes the contribution of school meals to addressing the barriers to access to primary-level education.

**Expected outputs**

59. CSP outcome 2 will be achieved through outputs 2.1, 3.1 and 4.1.

- Outcome 2.1: Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with balanced school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs.
- Outcome 3.1: In selected districts, children age 6–59 months with acute malnutrition are provided with specialized nutritious foods to treat malnutrition through government systems.
- Outcome 4.1: Girls and boys of school age, community members, caregivers of children and older people and school staff in targeted districts benefit from social behaviour change communication interventions that improve their knowledge and shift their attitudes and practices towards recommended dietary and nutrition behaviours.

**Key activities**

**Activity 2: Provide nutritionally-balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren**

60. WFP will continue to provide daily hot meals to primary schoolchildren age 6–11 in food-insecure rural and urban areas as a priority multisectoral and nutrition-sensitive safety net programme. Currently, WFP school meals are the only source of fortified foods in Tajikistan, making them essential to the provision of crucial vitamins and minerals for growing children. Knowledge about the dietary needs of children will be provided to communities under activity 4.

61. Assistance will gradually be reduced over the four-year period of the CSP as WFP takes concrete steps to build the Government’s capacity for the gradual nationalization of school feeding as a social protection programme under CSP outcome 4.

62. WFP will assess the barriers to secondary school attendance faced by adolescent girls in rural and urban areas and the feasibility of piloting CBTs to increase girls’ enrolment and attendance.

63. WFP will procure food for the school meals programme regionally and internationally while seeking to increase schools’ access to local food procurement through home-grown school feeding initiatives under CSP outcome 1 and school-based income generation activities under CSP outcome 4.

**Activity 3: Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children age 6–59 months and strengthen local capacity to manage nutrition programmes**

64. WFP will provide specialized nutritious foods purchased regionally to treat children with moderate acute malnutrition in primary health centres in districts with high prevalence of malnutrition where the Government has rolled out the national integrated management of acute malnutrition protocol. Working with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population, WFP will regularly reassess the priority areas for intervention and coordinate with partners to ensure complementarity in nutrition programming. WFP will continue to ensure that health centre staff have the skills to manage the moderate acute malnutrition treatment programme.
Activity 4: Provide social behaviour change communication interventions to targeted groups to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition

65. To reduce the increasing triple burden of malnutrition (undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight and obesity) WFP will address the underlying and enabling determinants, including by identifying cultural and traditional norms and practices that lead to malnutrition. WFP will support the development and dissemination of tailored SBCC interventions for schoolchildren, school staff, the caregivers of schoolchildren and nutritionally-vulnerable individuals and community members. The SBCC materials will be age- and gender-specific and disability-inclusive and will promote good hygiene, increase awareness of healthy diets and the benefits of consuming fortified foods and identify and address suboptimal eating practices. They will include a focus on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and will complement the SBCC initiatives of partners.

Partnerships

66. As an active member of the SUN movement, WFP will implement nutrition activities jointly with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population and coordinate with UNICEF and other development partners active in Tajikistan – such as the Aga Khan Health Services, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation, or GIZ), the World Bank and the World Health Organization – to support the malnutrition prevention efforts of local authorities and communities. Cooperation with UN-Women will ensure that SBCC interventions are developed in a gender-sensitive manner.

67. School feeding will be implemented in partnership with the ministries responsible for education and health and social protection and regional and district authorities. WFP will coordinate with FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to support a gradual transition to a nationally owned and gender-responsive school feeding programme with a focus on nutrition and health.

Assumptions

68. Effective implementation of interventions under this outcome assumes that the knowledge provided through SBCC will trigger behaviour change and improve dietary consumption and overall health among the participants in all activities in schools, communities and health centres. Progress towards a gradual handover of the school feeding programme depends on the Government allocating sufficient financial and human resources and on communities having the means and will to contribute to the programme.

Transition/handover strategy

69. Under CSP outcome 4, WFP will work closely with the ministries responsible for education and health and social protection to develop viable handover strategies for school feeding and nutrition programmes. WFP has defined a roadmap and action plan for a gradual transition to a national school meals programme, including the necessary policy and legislative changes, allocations from the state budget, capacity strengthening interventions, and monitoring and evidence generation activities, taking into account the five policy goals of the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER). Parent–teacher associations are integral to the school meals programme and provide substantial complementary support. WFP will also support the ministries in strengthening capacity and exploring and establishing public financing mechanisms for school feeding and nutrition programmes.

70. To reduce reliance on the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition in the long term, WFP will promote malnutrition prevention in all activities. In collaboration with UNICEF and other technical agencies, WFP will work to institutionalize nutrition awareness among government and partner staff and build capacity to monitor nutrition outcomes. WFP will advocate the integration of nutrition into social protection programmes, school agendas and resilience-building activities. Under the forthcoming memorandum of understanding with
the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population, WFP will ensure that handover strategies are developed with clear milestones and allocations from the state budget.

Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally-vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national systems and subnational capacities are strengthened to address cumulative impacts of disasters and crises and enable affected communities to build back better

71. Activities under this outcome support the Government and humanitarian partners in responding to localized emergencies, including increases in the number of refugees arriving from Afghanistan, through the provision of emergency support and on-demand services.

WFP strategic outcome

72. This CSP outcome is in line with WFP strategic outcome 1 (People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs).

Focus area

73. This CSP outcome focuses on crisis response.

Alignment with national priorities

74. This outcome aligns with UNSDCF outcome 3 (integrated management of climate and environmental risk). Support for Afghan refugees is part of the regional refugee response plan.22

Expected outputs

75. CSP outcome 3 will be achieved through outputs 5.1, 6.1 and 7.1:

➢ Output 5.1: Food-insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations receive food assistance and nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and receive new or rehabilitated assets to promote early recovery and self-reliance.

➢ Output 6.1: Nutritionally-vulnerable refugees are provided with specialized nutritious foods and knowledge, with communication to treat and prevent acute malnutrition.

➢ Output 7.1: Development and humanitarian actors, as well as government institutions, benefit from services provided to facilitate efficient coordination of supply chain, transportation, telecommunications and administrative efforts, including on-demand cash transfer services.

Key activities

Activity 5: Provide food assistance, nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication, post-crisis reconstruction and livelihoods building activities to refugees and food-insecure populations affected by crises or natural disasters

76. When requested by the Government, WFP will provide in-kind food or cash-based assistance through general distributions supplemented by distributions of fortified blended foods for vulnerable populations affected by crises, including natural disasters, conflict and displacement. Targeted livelihood and skills-building support will contribute to the self-reliance of refugees and host communities, in line with the WFP-UNHCR joint strategy.23

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All activities will be gender-sensitive and complemented by SBCC, with the mainstreaming of protection and a focus on social cohesion.

Activity 6: Provide nutrition-treatment packages for malnourished children age 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations and individuals

77. WFP will provide specialized nutritious foods for children age 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls and other nutritionally-vulnerable groups. Under activity 5 those groups will benefit from SBCC interventions that promote nutrition awareness, better feeding practices and knowledge relevant to the first 1,000 days of life.

Activity 7: Provide on-demand services for governmental institutions, development actors and other partners, including private sector partners

78. WFP began to provide on-demand services, including logistics and procurement services, to the Government and development partners in response to COVID-19-related disruption in 2020. In 2021, it explored the provision of common information technology services after civil strife led to interruptions in communication channels. WFP will continue to provide on-demand services, including support for regional services such as the WFP humanitarian air service in Afghanistan operated by the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service for flights between Dushanbe and Kabul, and the operationalization of a WFP logistics centre in Termez, Uzbekistan.

Partnerships

79. WFP will continue to work in close coordination with the Government's disaster management arm, the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, and to support and enhance the response capacity of REACT.

Assumptions

80. The Government demonstrates political commitment to the development and implementation of evidence-based, coherent emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction measures.

Transition/handover strategy

81. WFP will continue to strengthen the capacity of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense in early warning, emergency preparedness and humanitarian supply chains for emergency response and will collaborate with local academic actors on the establishment of disaster risk reduction and early warning systems. WFP will coordinate with United Nations and NGO partners and advocate increased interagency collaboration through standard approaches using digital platforms.

Country strategic plan outcome 4: Government institutions are strengthened to accelerate and sustain results contributing to inclusive social protection programmes and strengthened national and subnational food systems by 2026 in Tajikistan

82. Under this outcome, through interventions aligned with the corporate framework for country capacity strengthening, WFP will strengthen the capacity of the Government, development partners and private sector stakeholders with a view to enhancing systems, processes and partnerships for school feeding, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and nutrition initiatives.

WFP strategic outcome

83. This CSP outcome is in line with WFP strategic outcome 4 (National programmes and systems are strengthened).

Focus area

84. This CSP outcome focuses on addressing root causes.
Alignment with national priorities

85. This CSP outcome contributes to UNSDCF outcome 2 (sustainable, inclusive, and green economic growth).

Expected outputs

86. CSP outcome 4 will be achieved through outputs 8.1, 8.2 and 9.1:

➢ Output 8.1: Government institutions and local authorities receive technical assistance and capacity development for nationalized school feeding and nutrition programmes, inclusive of digital applications and sustainable and optimal models for urban, peri-urban and rural contexts.

➢ Output 8.2: Government institutions and the private sector receive capacity building and technical assistance for a sustainable, local fortification programme, including improved food safety and quality standards in Tajikistan, for products such as wheat flour and complementary foods.

➢ Output 9.1: Targeted households and populations benefit from the improved capacities of government institutions for emergency preparedness, early warning and food security and nutrition monitoring through digital applications.

Key activities

Activity 8: Strengthen the capacity of government and private sector institutions to implement social protection through nationalized school feeding, nutrition programmes and local fortification that enhance diets and reduce acute and other forms of malnutrition

87. Building on work carried out in past years on the development of national strategies, action plans and public finance schemes and the 2021 SABER exercise WFP will advocate that the Government commit itself to the global school meals coalition. Realization of such a goal will facilitate the gradual transition of schools from WFP support under CSP outcome 2.

88. Local procurement and fund management will continue through the expansion of a funds transfer model initiated in the 2020/2021 school year. The transition from in-kind transfers to a funds transfer model will be planned with communities and parent–teacher associations supporting the management of school feeding activities. Micronutrient powders will be provided as a supplement to ensure adequate nutrient intake for schoolchildren until locally fortified foods are available.

89. WFP will develop an optimal package of income generation activities that contribute to the individual schools’ ability to sustain the provision of school meals themselves. WFP will continue to explore public–private partnerships that support school feeding, including the scale-up of a community bakery project and affiliation arrangements with local entrepreneurs.

90. WFP will integrate gender-, diversity- and nutrition-sensitive messaging into all activities. Materials will be developed with UN-Women and will cover themes that include the production of foods with age- and sex-appropriate nutrient contents, advocacy and support for conventional biofortification and the development of nutrition-sensitive advocacy materials.

91. WFP will work with government institutions and the private sector to further develop the regulatory landscape and local capacity to produce nutritious, fortified foods, building on the passage of the 2019 law on fortification, which made the fortification of wheat flour mandatory. For Tajik-specific guidelines, successful experiences from the region will inform the development of safety and quality standards, and a micronutrient assessment will be used to determine the optimal balance of nutrients in pre-mix solution.
Activity 9: Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions, academia and private sector stakeholders involved in advocating and implementing food security and nutrition programmes, including emergency preparedness

92. WFP will continue to support the Agency on Statistics through the provision of technical assistance and equipment for the development of a food security and nutrition monitoring system to inform the formulation of national, equitable and inclusive strategies and policies. WFP will coordinate with the University of Central Asia on research-based climate hazard impact analysis models and localized disaster mitigation approaches in rural areas.

93. WFP will work with the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense on strengthening national capacity to coordinate and manage humanitarian supply chains and information exchange.

94. WFP will collaborate with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population and development partners such as UNICEF and the World Bank to strengthen the targeted social assistance programme, with potential focus areas including shock-responsive social protection, the inclusion of the population groups at greatest risk of malnutrition and the adoption of a nutrition- and gender-sensitive approach throughout the programme.

Partnerships

95. WFP will conduct food fortification activities under the umbrella of the SUN movement and the SUN Business Network, working closely with UNICEF and other nutrition partners. Work on the humanitarian supply chain will be implemented with the global logistics cluster, as part of its field-based preparedness project. The ministries responsible for health and social protection and education and science will be key government counterparts, with additional cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies and the Agency on Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Trade Inspection.

96. As an active member of the Tajikistan SUN movement, WFP leads efforts to re-establish the SUN Business Network in the country. WFP is exploring the business models for national food fortification used in neighbouring countries and is studying global successes in national school meals programmes through South-South and triangular cooperation.

Assumptions

97. Effective implementation of this outcome will rely on national and subnational governments allocating sufficient financial and human resources for capacity strengthening. It is also assumed that WFP has sufficient funding to implement a long-term and coherent capacity strengthening strategy.

Transition/handover strategy

98. WFP will work with the Ministry of Education and Sciences to develop a joint handover strategy with a detailed roadmap, including financial requirements (covering, for example, supply chains and the per capita cost of meals) and milestones that are in line with the national strategy for the sustainable development of school feeding for 2017–2027. Greater emphasis will be placed on empowering the ministry’s school feeding centre to manage operations that range from distribution planning to monitoring and reporting using digital approaches.

99. WFP will work closely with partners to revitalize the SUN Business Network in Tajikistan and thus to bring together the private, public and development sectors in support of the national nutrition agenda. An entry point will be the local fortification of wheat flour and complementary foods.
100. Through the joint identification of capacity strengthening needs with the Agency on Statistics and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, and in cooperation with the University of Central Asia, WFP intends to establish strong information exchange networks on food security, nutrition and emergency preparedness and early warning that can ultimately be managed by those entities themselves. WFP is also collaborating with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade with a view to strengthening the ministry’s ability to design inclusive and cross-sectoral district development plans and update the food security and vulnerability atlas.

4. Implementation arrangements

4.1 Beneficiary analysis

101. Beneficiary households for asset creation and livelihood support activities will be selected from the beneficiary list of the national targeted social assistance programme, complemented by WFP vulnerability criteria and gender and diversity inclusion parameters and discussions with local communities. WFP plans to ensure that 60 percent of participants are women. Participants will receive household entitlements, calculated using an average household size of five people.

102. WFP anticipates a gradual handover of the school feeding programme to the Government throughout the period of CSP implementation. In the first year, WFP will support about 280,000 primary schoolchildren age 6–11 in food-insecure rural areas through school feeding interventions, gradually reducing the number assisted to approximately 184,000 by the end of the CSP. Activities will include the provision of hot meals in schools and support through the funds transfer model.

103. Nutrition-treatment activities will target 17,000 children age 6–59 months in the districts with the highest rates of food insecurity, stunting and wasting. Targeted districts will be agreed upon in 2022 with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population. SBCC will target the population groups most likely to learn, adapt and share their new-found knowledge, including schoolchildren, caregivers and community members. In fortification project areas, the importance of consuming fortified foods will be communicated, with a gradual expansion of coverage following successful outcomes.

104. WFP will provide life-saving support to refugees in coordination with UNHCR and in accordance with the refugee coordination mechanism. Response to and inclusion of food-insecure people and communities affected by crises such as natural disasters or conflict will be determined with the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense through the REACT platform and will comply with WFP-defined vulnerability criteria.

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24 This includes schools receiving support through the funds transfer model.
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4.2 Transfers

105. The contents of WFP food baskets are culturally acceptable and fortified in accordance with WFP standards for addressing micronutrient deficiencies. The value of the entitlements provided under the food assistance for assets creation programme is expected to cover beneficiaries' food gap and will be based on essential needs assessments. Nutritious foods will be added to emergency response rations in order to prevent malnutrition and meet increased energy requirements during crises and recovery periods, especially in the winter months.

106. The choice of transfer modality will take into account access to financial services, market functioning (including the accessibility and affordability of nutritious and diversified foods), the preferences of women and men beneficiaries, and the approaches followed by the Government and partners. In rural areas with no financial service providers, WFP will work with the private sector to explore alternative ways of distributing CBTs. Transfers may be topped up to cover the cost of transport to banks.

4.3 Country office capacity and profile

107. WFP will continue to maintain its field presence in Tajikistan through its four suboffices covering the main areas of the country, and the main country office in Dushanbe. The operational capacity of suboffices will be strengthened through the recruitment of additional staff and direct backstopping from the country office as required.

108. WFP has the necessary expertise to maintain its existing programmes in school feeding, value chains, nutrition, vulnerability analysis and mapping, CBTs and disaster prevention and response. WFP will recruit additional expertise for new interventions such as the development of forecast-based anticipatory action, the provision of climate services, the expansion of social protection and disability inclusion and private sector partnerships.

109. Periodic reviews of the country office staffing structure will be conducted to ensure its alignment with programme shifts and the resource outlook.

4.4 Partnerships

110. The Government of Tajikistan will remain WFP's main partner. WFP has formal partnerships with various ministries and committees, such as the Ministry of Education and Science and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, and works closely with the ministries responsible for health and social protection, economic development and trade and agriculture, as well as the Committee for Environmental Protection.

111. As recommended in the CSP evaluation, WFP will strengthen collaboration with subnational entities such as regional and district governments.

112. WFP will ensure close alignment with UNICEF, FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development. At the country level, WFP has signed cooperation agreements with UN-Women and academic institutions, such as the University of Central Asia and the University of Reading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the development of climate change and resilience building activities for rural areas.

113. WFP will continue to work with the Development Coordination Council – a coordination mechanism chaired by the United Nations resident coordinator comprising key donor and development agencies in Tajikistan – chairing the food security and nutrition working group. The council ensures coherent coordination among development partners working in support of NDS-2030.
5. **Performance management and evaluation**

5.1 **Monitoring and evaluation arrangements**

114. Monitoring arrangements will be guided by WFP’s corporate results framework for 2022–2025 and appropriate standards, including country-specific results related to gender equality, accountability to affected populations, data protection and disability inclusion. Theories of change will inform the evidence, monitoring and evaluation needs of the CSP.

115. Under the agreement with the Green Climate Fund, a final independent external evaluation of Green Climate Fund-funded projects will be conducted no later than nine months after their completion. The evaluation, along with a mid-term evaluation conducted in 2022, will be in accordance with WFP’s decentralized evaluation processes.

116. Reviews of the various pilots under the school feeding programme were conducted in 2022 and an overall portfolio review is planned for 2023, with special attention directed to the handover process.

117. A CSP mid-term review will be conducted in 2024 to facilitate programmatic adaptation during CSP implementation. An independent CSP evaluation will be carried out in 2025 to assess overall performance and inform future strategic orientation.

5.2 **Risk management**

*Strategic risks*

118. Funding that is earmarked or insufficient in amount may hamper the implementation of planned activities, limiting WFP’s contribution to the national SDG agenda and current UNSDCF objectives, particularly with respect to school feeding, which depends on a single donor. There is a risk that progress built up over time, in terms of goodwill, impact on beneficiaries and capacity, can be rapidly lost if national programmes are paused due to a lack of funding. WFP has developed a resource mobilization strategy that highlights the need to raise funds for the Government as well as the CSP.

119. Regional political volatility may exacerbate economic instability and currency fluctuations, causing further food price rises, reduced access to certain foods and an increase in the number of food-insecure people, thus diverting WFP’s focus from capacity strengthening to the direct delivery of assistance. WFP will continuously monitor market prices and conduct household monitoring to identify risks. Contingency plans will include the pre-positioning of foods and other supplies, while efforts to support the Government in making its social protection systems more shock-responsive will continue.

120. WFP’s strategic shift to supporting national programmes and strengthening the capacity of the Government and communities requires expertise in specialized areas. WFP has appointed a dedicated human resources officer for the organizational realignment that will help to ensure the necessary staffing.

*Operational risks*

121. Limited capacity on the part of cooperating partners could significantly impair the quality of programme delivery. To address this risk, WFP will conduct capacity-strengthening activities with its partners, including local NGOs, informed by capacity assessments. WFP will also conduct periodic partner mapping exercises. Crisis response programming may include direct implementation by WFP, if required.

122. Given the limited number of suppliers in Tajikistan that meet WFP’s procurement and food safety standards, there is a risk that supply chain disruptions will affect food commodities. WFP will regularly review and update the procurement plan to identify potential suppliers and will regularly update the roster of international, regional and local suppliers.
Fiduciary risks

123. The underdeveloped nature of the financial services sector in Tajikistan may make compliance with WFP financial rules and regulations for CBTs difficult. WFP will ensure that potential vendors are aware of, and trained in, its standards.

124. WFP will continue to enforce and implement United Nations standard operating procedures and risk management frameworks to mitigate potential health, safety and security risks.

5.3 Social and environmental safeguards

125. The country office endeavours to improve the environmental sustainability of WFP’s in-house operations, including through the implementation of an environmental management system covering areas such as energy efficiency and decarbonization, waste and water management, the reduction of air travel through videoconferencing for meetings and training and staff awareness. Implementation of the system is included as an indicator in WFP’s corporate results framework and reported on externally through the Greening the Blue platform of the United Nations Environment Programme.

126. WFP coordinates the work of its NGO partners through the United Nations Partner Portal, conducting a thorough due diligence process to ensure that potential partners have the capacity to implement WFP projects in compliance with “do-no-harm” principles and ensuring full financial security. WFP will promote a rights-based approach and advocate social inclusion and beneficiary data protection in government-administered programmes. WFP will screen activities for their impact on gender relations and will support advocacy on the prevention of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse.

6. Resources for results

6.1 Country portfolio budget

127. The country portfolio budget assumes a progressive reduction in school feeding beneficiary numbers and in SBCC interventions targeting caregivers and communities. At the same time, activities under CSP outcome 1 will be scaled up in response to the increased focus on climate change adaptation and resilience building.

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</table>
6.2 Resourcing outlook and strategy

128. Since 2018, WFP's operations in Tajikistan, including under the CSP for 2019–2024, have been resourced at an average of 76.5 percent against the needs-based plan. In recent years WFP has succeeded in finding new donors that diversify its funding base, particularly for climate change and resilience activities. However, the majority of resources for school feeding activities are provided by a single donor, which affects the overall financial stability of the CSP.

129. WFP has developed a partnership action plan aimed at expanding its partnerships and donors under the new CSP. Fundraising for government programmes will be a priority in order to ensure that there is national capacity to finance and budget for school feeding, food fortification, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation and social protection.
LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR TAJIKISTAN COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN (JANUARY 2023–DECEMBER 2026)

SDG 2: Zero hunger

SDG target 2.1: Access to food

Country strategic plan outcome 3: By 2026, crisis-affected and nutritionally-vulnerable populations are better able to meet urgent food needs, and national systems and subnational capacities are strengthened to address cumulative impacts of disasters and crises and enable affected communities to build back better

Strategic outcome 1: People are better able to meet their urgent food and nutrition needs

Focus area: crisis response

Nutrition-sensitive

Assumptions
Access to crisis-affected population is possible

Outcome indicators
Consumption-based coping strategy index, reduced CSI
Economic capacity to meet essential needs
Food consumption score
Food consumption score – nutrition
Livelihood coping strategies for essential needs
Livelihood coping strategies for food security
Minimum diet diversity for women and girls of reproductive age
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment default rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment mortality rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment non-response rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment recovery rate
Percentage of moderate acute malnutrition cases reached by treatment services (coverage)
Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base

Percentage of users satisfied with services provided

Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet

Proportion of eligible population reached by nutrition preventive programme (coverage)

Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions (adherence)

Activities and outputs

5. Provide food assistance, nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication, post-crisis reconstruction and livelihoods building activities to refugees and food-insecure populations affected by crises or natural disasters (URT-1.2: Unconditional resource transfer)

5.1 Food-insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations receive food assistance and nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and receive new or rehabilitated assets to promote early recovery and self-reliance (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

5.1 Food-insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations receive food assistance and nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and receive new or rehabilitated assets to promote early recovery and self-reliance (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

5.1 Food-insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations receive food assistance and nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and receive new or rehabilitated assets to promote early recovery and self-reliance (Output category D: Assets created. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

5.1 Food-insecure refugees and other crisis-affected populations receive food assistance and nutrition-focused social behaviour change communication to meet their basic food and nutrition needs and receive new or rehabilitated assets to promote early recovery and self-reliance (Output category E: Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) provided. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)
6. Provide nutrition-treatment packages for malnourished children age 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women and girls and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations and individuals (NTA-1.4: Malnutrition treatment programme)

6.1 Nutritionally-vulnerable refugees are provided with specialized nutritious foods and knowledge, with communication to treat and prevent acute malnutrition (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

6.1 Nutritionally-vulnerable refugees are provided with specialized nutritious foods and knowledge, with communication to treat and prevent acute malnutrition (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

7. Provide on-demand services for governmental institutions, development actors and other partners, including private sector partners (ODS-2.4: On-demand services)

7.1 Development and humanitarian actors, as well as government institutions, benefit from services provided to facilitate efficient coordination of supply chain, transportation, telecommunications and administrative efforts, including on-demand cash transfer services (Output category H: Shared services and platforms provided. Standard output 1.1: Food-insecure and crisis-affected populations have access to nutritious food and cash-based assistance, restored assets and services to meet their urgent needs)

SDG target 2.2: End malnutrition

Country strategic plan outcome 2: By 2026, rural and urban populations in targeted areas have improved food security and nutrition for inclusive human development

Strategic outcome 2: People have better nutrition, health and education outcomes

Focus area: root causes

Assumptions

No pipeline break
Engagement of the Government to integrate activities into the social protection system

Outcome indicators

Annual change in enrolment

Attendance rate
Graduation/completion rate
Minimum diet diversity for women and girls of reproductive age
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment default rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment mortality rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment non-response rate
Moderate acute malnutrition treatment recovery rate
Number of complementary school health and nutrition interventions delivered alongside school feeding delivered by WFP
Percentage of moderate acute malnutrition cases reached by treatment services (coverage)
Proportion of children 6-23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet
Retention rate/drop-out rate, by grade

Activities and outputs

2. Provide nutritionally-balanced school meals to targeted schoolchildren (SMP-1.5: School-based programmes)

2.1 Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with balanced school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 2.3: School-age children and adolescents access school-based health and nutrition packages)

2.1 Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with balanced school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Standard output 2.3: School-age children and adolescents access school-based health and nutrition packages)

2.1 Girls and boys of primary school age in targeted schools are provided with balanced school meals that meet their basic food and nutrition needs. (Output category N: School feeding provided. Standard output 2.3: School-age children and adolescents access school-based health and nutrition packages)

3. Treat moderate acute malnutrition in children age 6-59 months and strengthen local capacity to manage nutrition programmes (NTA-1.4: Malnutrition treatment programme)

3.1 In selected districts, children age 6-59 months with acute malnutrition are provided with specialized nutritious foods to treat malnutrition through government systems (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets)
3.1 In selected districts, children age 6-59 months with acute malnutrition are provided with specialized nutritious foods to treat malnutrition through government systems (Output category B: Nutritious food provided. Standard output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets)

3.1 In selected districts, children age 6-59 months with acute malnutrition are provided with specialized nutritious foods to treat malnutrition through government systems (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Standard output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets)

4. Provide social behaviour change communication interventions to targeted groups to improve dietary diversity and prevent malnutrition (NPA-1.3: Malnutrition prevention programme)

4.1 Girls and boys of school age, community members, caregivers of children and older people and school staff in targeted districts benefit from social behaviour change communication interventions that improve their knowledge and shifts their attitudes and practices towards recommended dietary and nutrition behaviours (Output category E: Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) provided. Standard output 2.2: Children, pregnant women and girls and new mothers, and other nutritionally-vulnerable populations benefit from programmes to prevent and treat malnutrition and improve diets)

SDG target 2.4: Sustainable food system

Country strategic plan outcome 1: By 2026, food-insecure and vulnerable populations in urban and rural areas have strengthened livelihoods, resilience and adaptive capacities through improved climate-resilient and nutrition-sensitive agri-food value chains

Strategic outcome 3: People have improved and sustainable livelihoods

Nutrition-sensitive

Focus area: resilience building

Assumptions
Availability of capable stakeholders
Engagement of communities and prioritization of activities

Outcome indicators
Consumption-based coping strategy index, reduced CSI
Economic capacity to meet essential needs
Food consumption score
Food consumption score – nutrition
Livelihood coping strategies for essential needs
Livelihood coping strategies for food security
Percentage increase in production of high-quality and nutrition-dense foods
Percentage of food assistance for assets (FFA) supported assets that demonstrate improved vegetation and soil conditions
Percentage of targeted smallholder farmers reporting increased production of nutritious crops
Percentage of targeted smallholders selling through WFP-supported farmer aggregation systems
Percentage of targeted smallholder farmers reporting increased production of nutritious crops
Percentage of targeted smallholders selling through WFP-supported farmer aggregation systems
Percentage of the population in targeted communities reporting benefits from an enhanced livelihood asset base
Proportion of targeted communities where there is evidence of improved capacity to manage climatic shocks and risks
Proportion of the population in targeted communities reporting environmental benefits
Value and volume of smallholder sales through WFP-supported aggregation systems

Activities and outputs

1. Carry out climate adaptation, asset creation, market access support and livelihoods building activities through nutrition-sensitive and ecological approaches aimed at fostering resilience to shocks and stressors and increasing smallholder farmer production and income (CAR-1.9: Actions to protect against climate shocks)

1.2 Targeted rural and urban communities and smallholder farmers groups benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors that affect their food security (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods)

1.2 Targeted rural and urban communities and smallholder farmers groups benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors that affect their food security (Output category D: Assets created. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods)

1.2 Targeted rural and urban communities and smallholder farmers groups benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors that affect their food security (Output category F: Smallholder farmers supported. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods)

1.2 Targeted rural and urban communities and smallholder farmers groups benefit from new and rehabilitated productive assets that improve their resilience to climate shocks and other stressors that affect their food security (Output category G: Skills, capacities and services for climate-adapted livelihoods. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods)
1.3 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods).

1.3 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods).

1.3 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change (Output category F: Smallholder farmers supported. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods).

1.3 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups benefit from climate services, technology transfer and improved capacities that enable them to diversify their livelihoods, build resilience and adapt to climate change (Output category G: Skills, capacities and services for climate-adapted livelihoods. Standard output 3.2: People and communities have increased skills, capacities and access to financial, energy and climate services for climate-adapted and sustainable livelihoods).

1.4 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups have improved productivity and income through enhanced agricultural value chains and access to local and institutional markets (Output category D: Assets created. Standard output 3.3: Smallholder farmers and value chain actors have increased capacity to produce and aggregate marketable surplus, reduce post-harvest losses, access markets and leverage linkages to schools).

1.4 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups have improved productivity and income through enhanced agricultural value chains and access to local and institutional markets (Output category F: Smallholder farmers supported. Standard output 3.3: Smallholder farmers and value chain actors have increased capacity to produce and aggregate marketable surplus, reduce post-harvest losses, access markets and leverage linkages to schools).

1.4 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups have improved productivity and income through enhanced agricultural value chains and access to local and institutional markets (Output category G: Skills, capacities and services for climate-adapted livelihoods. Standard output 3.3: Smallholder farmers and value chain actors have increased capacity to produce and aggregate marketable surplus, reduce post-harvest losses, access markets and leverage linkages to schools).

1.1 Targeted rural and urban households and smallholder farmers groups receive food assistance that meets their immediate food and nutrition needs and enables them to improve their livelihoods (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 3.1: People and communities have access to productive assets and mechanisms to better cope with shocks and stressors).
SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

SDG target 17.9: Capacity building

Country strategic plan outcome 4: Government institutions are strengthened to accelerate and sustain results contributing to inclusive social protection programmes and strengthened national and subnational food systems by 2026 in Tajikistan

Strategic outcome 4: National programmes and systems are strengthened

Focus area: root causes

Assumptions

Resource availability

Outcome indicators

Emergency preparedness capacity index

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components contributing to zero hunger and other SDGs enhanced with WFP capacity strengthening support

Number of national policies, strategies, programmes and other system components relating to school health and nutrition/including school feeding enhanced/developed with WFP capacity strengthening support and/or advocacy

Number of people covered (WFP indirect beneficiaries) by national social protection systems or programmes to which WFP provided technical support

Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) school feeding index

Transition strategy for school health and nutrition and school feeding developed with WFP support

Activities and outputs

8. Strengthen the capacity of government and private sector institutions to implement social protection through nationalized school feeding, nutrition programmes and local fortification that enhance diets and reduce acute and other forms of malnutrition (SPS-1.10: Social protection sector support)

8.1 Government institutions and local authorities receive technical assistance and capacity development for nationalized school feeding and nutrition programmes, inclusive of digital applications and sustainable and optimal models for urban, peri-urban and rural contexts (Output category A: Resources transferred. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)
8.1 Government institutions and local authorities receive technical assistance and capacity development for nationalized school feeding and nutrition programmes, inclusive of digital applications and sustainable and optimal models for urban, peri-urban and rural contexts (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

8.1 Government institutions and local authorities receive technical assistance and capacity development for nationalized school feeding and nutrition programmes, inclusive of digital applications and sustainable and optimal models for urban, peri-urban and rural contexts. (Output category E: Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) provided. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

8.1 Government institutions and local authorities receive technical assistance and capacity development for nationalized school feeding and nutrition programmes, inclusive of digital applications and sustainable and optimal models for urban, peri-urban and rural contexts (Output category N: School feeding provided. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

8.2 Government institutions and the private sector receive capacity building and technical assistance for a sustainable, local fortification programme, including improved food safety and quality standards in Tajikistan, for products such as wheat flour and complementary foods (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)

9. Provide policy advice and technical assistance to public institutions, academia and private sector stakeholders involved in advocating and implementing food security and nutrition programmes, including emergency preparedness (EPA-1.1: Emergency preparedness and early action)

9.1 Targeted households and populations benefit from the improved capacities of government institutions for emergency preparedness, early warning and food security and nutrition monitoring through digital applications (Output category C: Capacity development and technical support provided. Standard output 4.1: National actors have increased capacity and knowledge to enhance policies, strategies, processes and programmes contributing to achieve zero hunger and other SDGs)
SDG 2: Zero hunger

CC.1. Protection
Cross-cutting indicators
CC.1.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting no safety concerns experienced as a result of their engagement in WFP programmes
CC.1.2: Percentage of beneficiaries who report they experienced no barriers to accessing food and nutrition assistance
CC.1.3: Percentage of beneficiaries who report being treated with respect as a result of their engagement in programmes
CC.1.4: Number of women, men, boys and girls with disabilities accessing food/cash-based transfers/commodity vouchers/capacity strengthening services
CC.1.5: WFP meets or exceeds UNDIS entity accountability framework standards concerning accessibility (QCPR)

CC.2. Accountability
Cross-cutting indicators
CC.2.1: Percentage of beneficiaries reporting they were provided with accessible information about WFP programmes, including PSEA
CC.2.2: Percentage of WFP country offices and units meeting or exceeding United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS) standards on consulting organizations of persons with disabilities (QCPR)
CC.2.3: Percentage of country office with a functioning community feedback mechanism
CC.2.4: Number of country offices with an action plan on community engagement
CC.2.5: Number of children and adults who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian, development, protection and/or other personnel who provide assistance to affected populations (IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNDPO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN-Women, OCHA)
CC.2.6: Percentage of WFP cooperating partners registered in the UN Partner Portal which have been assessed using the UN Implementing Partner PSEA Capacity Assessment
CC.3. Gender equality and women's empowerment

Cross-cutting indicators
CC.3.1: Percentage of households where women, men, or both women and men make decisions on the use of food/cash/vouchers, disaggregated by transfer modality
CC.3.2: Percentage of food assistance decision making entity members who are women
CC.3.3: Type of transfer (food, cash, voucher, no compensation) received by participants in WFP activities, disaggregated by sex, age and type of activity

CC.4. Environmental sustainability

Cross-cutting indicators
CC.4.1: Proportion of field-level agreements (FLAs)/memorandums of understanding (MOUs)/construction contracts (CCs) for CSP activities screened for environmental and social risks
CC.4.2: Percentage of WFP country offices implementing environmental management systems

CC.5. Nutrition integration

Cross-cutting indicators
CC.5.1: Percentage of people supported by WFP operations and services who are able to meet their nutritional needs through an effective combination of fortified food, specialized nutritious products and actions to support diet diversification
CC.5.2: Percentage of WFP beneficiaries who benefit from a nutrition-sensitive programme component
## ANNEX II

### FOOD RATION (g/person/day) AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary type</th>
<th>Food assistance for assets</th>
<th>CSP outcome 1</th>
<th>CSP outcome 2</th>
<th>CSP outcome 3</th>
<th>CSP outcome 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Activity 1</td>
<td>Activity 2</td>
<td>Activity 2</td>
<td>Activity 3</td>
<td>Activity 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Cereals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super Cereal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acha Mum</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micronutrient powder**</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-energy biscuits***</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total kcal/day</td>
<td>1,080</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>2,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% kcal from protein</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash-based transfer (USD/person/day)</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of feeding days per year</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For refugees in 2023, three months of food followed by three months of CBTs. In subsequent years, refugees will be supported during the lean season months with CBTs supplemented by livelihood building activities.

** Micronutrient powder is not included in overall kcal counts under CSP outcome 3. It is provided to children under 5 years of age only.

*** High-energy biscuits are provided to crisis-affected people for three days and to refugees for five days immediately after arrival.
# ANNEX III

## TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food type/cash-based transfer</th>
<th>Total (mt)</th>
<th>Total (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cereals</td>
<td>23 908</td>
<td>12 774 256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulses</td>
<td>2 399</td>
<td>1 794 261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil and fats</td>
<td>1 648</td>
<td>5 109 738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed and blended foods</td>
<td>1 027</td>
<td>1 970 248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>182 684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (food)</strong></td>
<td><strong>28 990</strong></td>
<td><strong>21 831 187</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash-based transfers</td>
<td></td>
<td>19 621 998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total (food and cash-based transfer value)</strong></td>
<td><strong>28 990</strong></td>
<td><strong>41 453 185</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ANNEX IV

### INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME (USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus area</th>
<th>Resilience building</th>
<th>Root causes</th>
<th>Crisis response</th>
<th>Root causes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>22 601 847</td>
<td>27 498 682</td>
<td>8 906 651</td>
<td>14 960 243</td>
<td>73 967 422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>1 289 331</td>
<td>2 643 377</td>
<td>511 706</td>
<td>1 761 073</td>
<td>6 205 488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted direct support costs</td>
<td>1 844 333</td>
<td>2 313 423</td>
<td>711 975</td>
<td>1 262 269</td>
<td>6 132 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>25 735 510</strong></td>
<td><strong>32 455 482</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 130 332</strong></td>
<td><strong>17 983 585</strong></td>
<td><strong>86 304 910</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)</td>
<td>1 672 808</td>
<td>2 109 606</td>
<td>644 468</td>
<td>1 168 933</td>
<td>5 595 815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>27 408 319</strong></td>
<td><strong>34 565 088</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 774 800</strong></td>
<td><strong>19 152 518</strong></td>
<td><strong>91 900 725</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Acronyms

CBT  cash-based transfer
COVID-19  coronavirus disease 2019
CSP  country strategic plan
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GIZ  Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
NDS-2030  national development strategy for the period up to 2030
NGO  non-governmental organization
REACT  rapid emergency assessment and coordination team
SABER  Systems Approach for Better Education Results
SBCC  social and behaviour change communication
SDG  Sustainable Development Goal
SUN  Scaling Up Nutrition
UNHCR  Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF  United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF  United Nations sustainable development cooperation framework
UN-Women  United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women